

JAN 12 2007

Application No.: 10/664,054

Docket No.: 58998US002

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1-6 (canceled)

7. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the container has a discharge nipple extending therefrom, and wherein the exposing step comprises creating a raised protrusion on an exterior surface of the discharge nipple as a result of exposure to the laser generated radiation.

8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 wherein the exposing step comprises creating a plurality of raised protrusions on the exterior surface of the discharge nipple.

9. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 wherein the creation of the indicia and the protrusion occur during a single pass of laser generated radiation across the container.

10. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7, and further comprising:  
mounting a flexible tubular cap over the discharge nipple so that portions of the tubular cap stretch to fit over the discharge nipple and the raised protrusion, wherein the raised protrusion aids in retaining the tubular cap in place on the discharge nipple.

11. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the indicia is raised relative to the exterior surface of the container sufficient to readily enable manual tactile detection thereof.

12. (canceled)

13. (withdrawn) A method of forming a capsule assembly which includes radiation-reactive dental restorative material comprises:

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Application No.: 10/664,054

Docket No.: 58998US002

providing a container having an exterior surface and an interior chamber, the container formed from a laser-enhanced polymer and formed to inhibit the transmission of light radiation of selected wavelengths therethrough, and the container having a first open end and a second end with a discharge nipple thereon, with the discharge nipple having an orifice therethrough in communication with the interior chamber of the container;

exposing selected portions of the exterior surface of the discharge nipple to laser generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create a raised protrusion on the discharge nipple;

inserting radiation-reactive dental restorative material into the interior chamber of the container through the first open end of the container; sealing the first open end of the container; and

mounting a removable cap over the discharge nipple, the cap being flexible to cover and seal the orifice, and the cap engaging the protrusion on the discharge nipple to inhibit inadvertent separation of the cap from the discharge nipple.

14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein the exposing step comprises creating a plurality of raised protrusions on the exterior surface of the discharge nipple.

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, and further comprising:  
exposing selected portions of the exterior surface of the container to laser generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create indicia on the exterior surface, the indicia having a sufficient contrast relative to the exterior surface to enable readily visual human and/or optical machine-readable detection of the indicia.

16. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein the creation of the indicia and the creation of the protrusion occur during a single pass of laser generated radiation across the container.

17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15, and further comprising:

Application No.: 10/664,054

Docket No.: 58998US002

- producing a plurality of containers such as those defined in the providing step;  
and  
exposing portions of the exterior surfaces of each of the containers in the  
plurality of containers to the laser generated radiation, during a single  
pass of laser generated radiation, to create the protrusion and indicia on  
each container.
18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17, and further comprising:  
creating different indicia on selected containers in the plurality of  
containers which are exposed to the laser generated  
radiation during the single pass of laser generated  
radiation.
19. (withdrawn) A method of assembling two component parts comprises:  
providing a first component part which is elongated, has an orifice  
therethrough, has an exterior surface extending about the orifice,  
and is formed from a laser-enhanced polymer;  
providing a second component part which is formed to resiliently extend  
over the elongated portion of the first component part bearing the  
orifice;  
exposing the exterior surface of the first component part to laser  
generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create a  
protrusion thereon; and  
resiliently expanding the second component part over the exterior  
surface and protrusion on the first component part to cover and  
seal the orifice thereof, with the protrusion on the first  
component part engaging the second component part to inhibit  
inadvertent separation of the two component parts.
20. (canceled)
21. (Previously presented) A method of forming a capsule assembly for a dental  
material, comprising the steps of:

Application No.: 10/664,054

Docket No.: 58998US002

(a) providing a container having an exterior surface and an interior chamber, the container formed from a laser-enhanced polymer and adapted to inhibit the transmission of light radiation of selected wavelengths therethrough; and

(b) exposing selected portions of the exterior surface of the container to laser-generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create indicia on the exterior surface, the indicia having a sufficient contrast relative to the exterior surface to enable visual human and/or optical machine-readable detection of the indicia.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, further including the step of inserting radiation-reactive dental restorative material into the interior chamber of the container.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the indicia identify characteristics of the dental material.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the laser-enhanced polymer forming the container is inert relative to the dental material.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the ability of the container to dispense dental material under pressure is not adversely affected by the exposure of the container to laser-generated radiation when creating the indicia on the exterior surface of the container.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the indicia include an optically machine-readable bar code.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the indicia include letters, numerals, symbols, optically machine-readable bar codes, or reverse images thereof.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein step (b) comprises activating an Nd:YAG laser.

Application No.: 10/664,054

Docket No.: 58998US002

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein step (a) comprises providing a black container.
30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the selected wavelengths are from 370 nm to 530 nm.
31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the indicia contrast has a Brightness Scaled Contrast of at least 50.
32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, and further comprising:  
providing a plurality of containers according to step (a); and  
exposing portions of the exterior surfaces of each of the containers in the plurality of containers to the laser-generated radiation during a single pass to create the indicia on each container.
33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the method further comprises the step of providing different indicia on different ones of the containers in a single pass of the laser-generated radiation..
34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein the indicia is raised relative to the exterior surface of the container sufficient to readily enable manual tactile detection thereof.
35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the container has a discharge nipple extending therefrom, and wherein the method further comprises creating a raised protrusion on an exterior surface of the discharge nipple as a result of exposure to laser-generated radiation.
36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein a plurality of raised protrusions are formed on the exterior surface of the discharge nipple.

Application No.: 10/664,054

Docket No.: 58998US002

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35 wherein the creation of the indicia and the protrusion occur during a single pass of laser-generated radiation across the container.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, and further comprising:  
mounting a flexible cap over the discharge nipple so that portions of the cap stretch to fit over the discharge nipple and the raised protrusion.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

**BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☐ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☒ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**